

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania
COUNTY: Clearfield
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: St. Severin's Old Log Church
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Pennsylvania Route 53			
CITY OR TOWN: Cooper Settlement, Cooper Township		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 23rd	
STATE Pennsylvania	CODE 42	COUNTY: Clearfield	CODE 033

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) not presently in use

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Bishop of the Diocese of Erie (The Most Reverend Alfred N. Watson)	STATE: Pennsylvania
STREET AND NUMBER: Chancery Office, 205 West Ninth Street	
CITY OR TOWN: Erie	
STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE: 42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Clearfield County Register & Recorder's Office	
STREET AND NUMBER: Clearfield County Courthouse	
CITY OR TOWN: Clearfield	STATE: Pennsylvania
	CODE: 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: None
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
STATE:
CODE:

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Severin's Church is a one and one-half story log structure with a gable roof and steeple. The building measures approximately forty feet in length and twenty-four feet in width and rests upon a rock foundation.

The church is constructed of square-hewn, white pine logs and features two sills which run the entire length of each side. Peaked cornering characterize the sills while the logs above feature both squared tenons as well as dovetail joints, often referred to as half-dovetail. Planks fill in the gable ends and hand-split shingles cover the roof. The church originally featured a stone center chimney which was later removed. An inset steeple presently rises above the church and has four openings on each side. The steeple features a steep-pitched octagon roof.

The church has three window openings on either side, each one over one, double hung sash. The entrance features a double-leaf, three panelled door with an interesting triangular design. The interior of the church contains one large room with a loft. A partial restoration was conducted in 1967 and consisted primarily of rethinking the cracks between the logs with cement.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1851**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Severin's Old Log Church was built by German Catholic settlers who had immigrated to the area during the 1840's. St. Severin's was dedicated by the Bishop of Pittsburgh, Michael O'Conner, on September 2, 1851. The original parishioners consisted of thirty-five families, the "first family" being that of Severin Nebel (Neabel, Neable). According to belief, Nebel was a prominent Alsatian immigrant, and the church was named for his namesake, St. Severin, believed to be Romain Severin of Bordeaux, Bishop of Cologne.

Also located on the church property are the ruins of a rectory and a cemetery, blessed on July 26, 1852, which contains the graves of many of the original settlers. The property was conveyed to the Benedictine Society of Westmoreland County in 1855. In 1864, the title was passed to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie. The church served until about 1880 when a larger church was erected nearby.

Architecturally, the church is one of the few remaining early log structures in northcentral Pennsylvania.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Aldrich, Lewis Cass (ed.), History of Clearfield County Pennsylvania, Syracuse, N.Y.: D. Mason & Co., 1887, pp. 611-612.

Swetnam, George, "Historic Restoration," The Pittsburgh Press, (November 3, 1968), pp. 20-21.

History of Clearfield County, published by Matt Savage, Clearfield, Pa.: Public Spirit, 1896, pp. 218-219.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		41° 01' 55"	78° 06' 40"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **five**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Joseph A. Dague, Jr., President; David M. Berman, Curator

ORGANIZATION: **Clearfield Co. Hist. Soc.; Pa. Hist. & Museum Comm.** DATE: **Dec 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
104 East Pine St.; Wm. Penn Memorial Museum, Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: **Clearfield; Harrisburg** STATE: **Pennsylvania** CODE: **42**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name William J. Wewer
Executive Director
Title Pa Historical & Museum Commission

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

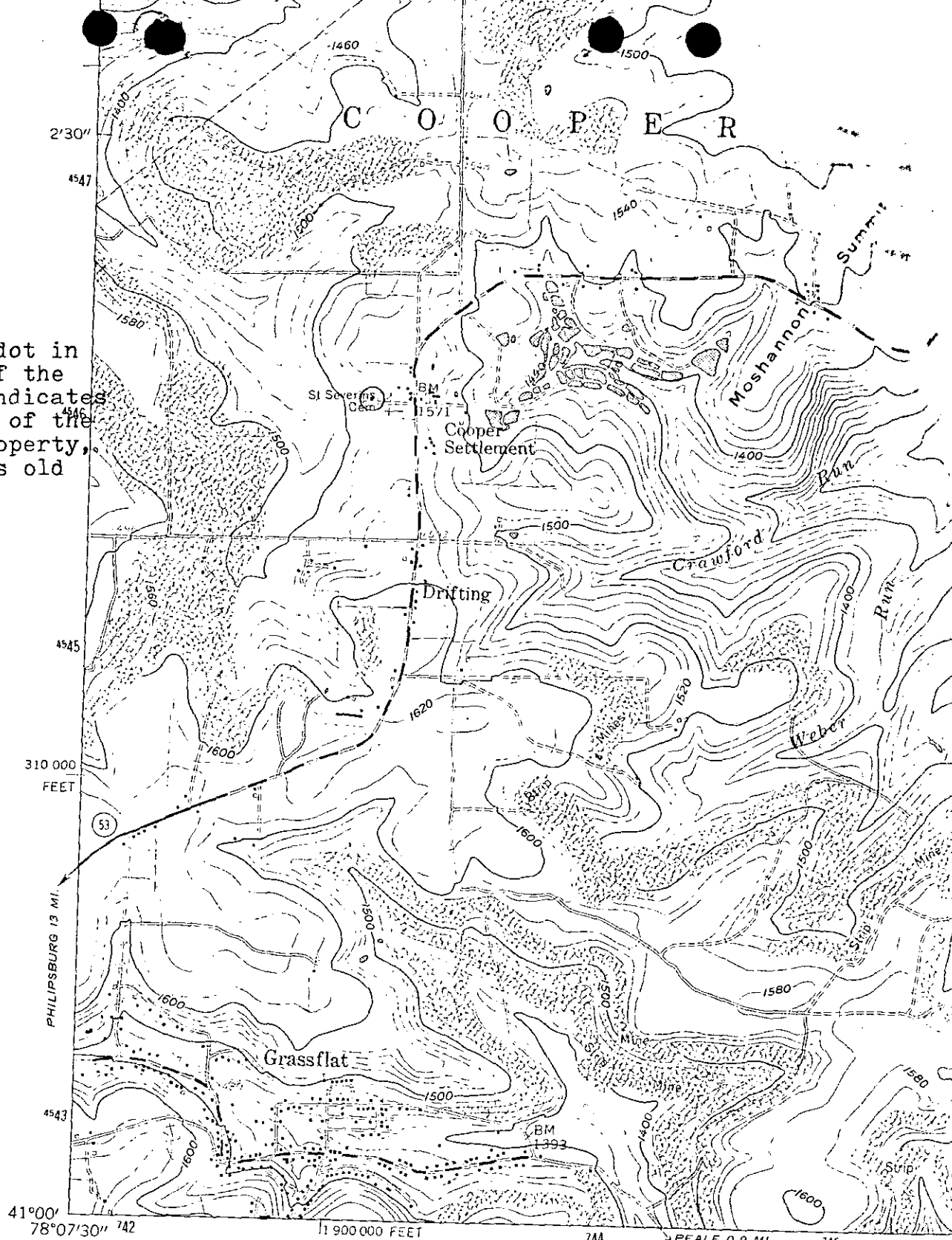
ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

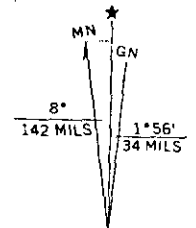
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Small black dot in the center of the red circle indicates the location of the nominated property, St. Severin's old log church.



(PHILIPSBURG)
5365 NW

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS
 Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
 Aerial photographs taken 1958. Field check 1959
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system,
 north zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 17, shown in blue



UTM GRID AND 1971 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked